

THE PARKSIDE PARENT CONNECTION

September 2010

Principal Andrea Somoza-Norton
Assistant Principal Kim Organek
Assistant Principal Ken Roy



Principal's Message

It's hard to believe that the first month of school is almost over and Autumn is already here! September's school events included an informative presentation on Cyberbullying Prevention by guest speaker Mr. Josh Gunderson and a successful Open House. I would like to thank our parents for their participation and support during this event.

NECAP assessments will be taking place in October. During the Enrichment period, students have been learning about test taking skills and strengthening their knowledge of math, reading and writing. Please encourage your child to give their best effort during testing. It is important for students to come to school on time and well rested. These few tips can make a difference in student achievement.

Mark Your Calendar

October 5, 6, 7
NECAP Testing

October 11
No school
Columbus Day

A reminder, if you drive your children to school in the morning please do not enter the Gossler Elementary School entrance, considering this can be a safety issue for all students. The student drop-off zone is the sidewalk area adjacent to our school on the right side of Parkside Ave. Thank you for your cooperation.

We are looking forward to keep working with you as the year progresses!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Norton

Assistant Principals' News: Discipline and Attendance

Discipline is often viewed as a punishment. Discipline should be a learning experience with positive outcomes. Respect and responsibility go hand in hand with a positive learning experience. Our students respond to positive reinforcement. Responsibility and respect start in the home-with your help at home we all will be much better off and our students will be successful. At Parkside we follow the Manchester School Districts "Code of Conduct" which has been distributed to each student earlier in September. Please review the Code of Conduct with your child as there are specific responsibilities for parents, students and School personnel. If you have any questions please contact any Parkside administrator.

Attendance is plain and simple. Students whom attend school on a regular basis are successful. We cannot expect children to succeed if they are absent. It is your responsibility for your children to attend school on a daily basis. We will monitor your child's attendance and be communicating with you on attendance issues. To keep it simple, your son /daughter must be in school and participating. Please make sure your student comes to school on time for class each day. Our new attendance policy was also sent home with your child in early September. Please review the policy with your child and stress to them the importance of attending on a daily basis.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs. Organek
Mr. Roy

Upcoming Events

◆ **October 15**
7th and 8th Grade
Dance
7:00-9:00PM

Nurse's Corner

Welcome back to the school year 2010 – 2011



September has arrived and with the start of the new school year. We should now be planning to take preventative action to stay well through cold and flu season. Boosting your immune system with sufficient sleep, exercise, nutrition and stress control.

We should wash our hands often and try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth. Avoid close contact with those who are ill with cold or flu like symptoms. Ask your physician about getting a Flu vaccine early; they are usually available in early September and October.

When your child is not well and is exhibiting symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea, cough or fever parents should be keeping them home to prevent the spread to others. Parents should not send students to school when they have symptoms or fever greater than 100 degrees F. which is not reducible with medication. Students should be symptom free and fever free for 24 hours prior to the return to school and if out of school greater than 3 days should a note to return from doctor.

Parents should encourage good sleep habits, exercise, and good nutrition. When children have proper nutrition they have better attention spans, better concentration, and are less distractable. Less distraction leads to better classroom performance, increased activity and to better grades.

I am looking forward to a healthy productive school year!

P.S. Concerns or questions you can call and leave a voice message @ 624-6356 EXT 16 or Email: Lkeefe@mansd.org.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Lisa Keefe R.N.

Guidance News

Mr. Liakos/Grade 8th Counselor

Welcome back to what is going to be an exciting and busy school year! NECAP testing begins the first week of October and continues into the second week of October for eighth graders. Any make-up testing must be completed by the third week of October. Eighth graders will complete a Science NECAP test in May of 2011.

The eighth grade Guidance curriculum focuses on career education with many activities planned. Also, in a few short months (January), students will begin the registration process for high school. Teacher recommendations are required for all course / level selections. Therefore, it is imperative that students give their best effort this year so that they can be properly placed for their freshman classes.

Communication between home and school is very important to the success of the middle school student. Please do not hesitate to call me with your questions or concerns. I can be reached at 624-6356 ext. 28 and also at pliakos@mansd.org.

Guidance News (Continued)

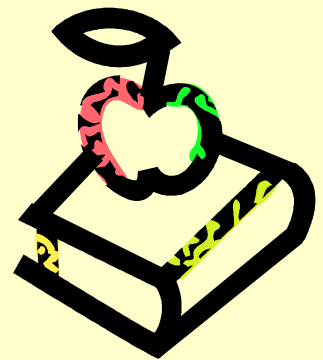
Mrs. Darby/7th Grade Counselor

Welcome Back!!

It is wonderful to see so many returning students! I hope that the upcoming year will be a successful and happy experience for you and your child. Seventh grade is an exciting time filled with new social experiences and challenges. Students are expected to be more responsible and independent than they were in sixth grade. I am confident that your child will meet these challenges successfully.

There are many new district level policies that have been implemented for this school year. Please make sure you have reviewed the new code of conduct, attendance policy and bullying policy with your child. If you have not received a copy, these policies are available online at www.mansd.org.

NECAPS are taking place during the first week of October. Please make sure your child has plenty of rest, a healthy breakfast and is here on time. If you have any questions or concerns about your child that you would like to discuss with me, please feel free to call me at 624-6356 ext. 24. I can also be reached by email at jdarby@mansd.org.



Mrs. Cornell/6th Grade Counselor

The school year has gotten off to a very busy but great start. The guidance department has been busy with schedules, planning bully prevention activities and getting ready for the upcoming NECAP tests.

The 6th grade will soon have a presentation by TIGER, a theater group from Plymouth University that focuses on how to make a bully your friend. The 6th grade will also be participating in the student portion of the city wide marathon on Nov. 4th. If you haven't signed your child's permission slip yet, please ask them for it and send it as soon as possible. It will be a great experience.

The guidance department is available to students and their families for help with academic and personal issues. Please feel free to call or e-mail with any concerns.

Mrs. Cornell

WELCOME NEW STAFF!

Middle School at Parkside welcomes new staff: Laureen Jette (6th Grade/Columbia Team-Language Arts); Kristen Riley (6th Grade/Harvard Team-Language Arts); Alexis Walsh (Physical Education); Sheila Carita (Special Education); and Cody Booth (Paraprofessional). Please make them feel welcome into our community.

POSITIVE PARENTING

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARS: LET'S GET ORGANIZED!

Start with the ABCs of organization:

A place for everything. Kids spend too much time looking for materials. Put together a small "Home Study Kit." It can be a box or plastic tote. Have paper, pens, pencils, and a dictionary ready to go at homework time. Try notebooks and folders color-coded for each subject.

Be focused. Being a student is your child's job now. Studying needs to come first when scheduling time and planning activities.

Calendars. Planners and calendars are useful tools for making school the top priority and helping students stay focused. Try to post a large calendar in a central place. If you have more than one child, use a different colored marking pen for each one. Let your child fill in key school dates (e.g., paper due, spelling test, book report due). Then you can check in on progress. You can also include important family plans on the same calendar so kids can prioritize and plan ahead.

Encourage your child to keep a small, personal to-do list. He may also use colored pens to keep track of subjects or important deadlines. He should also set interim targets such as "Do outline for paper" when working on a big project.

Source: Scholastic Parents

<http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=2004>

